

HUNT PROVES SUCCESSFUL.

GOV. MANNING AND OTHERS OF PARTY KILL MUCH GAME.

St. Deer Bagged, One of Which Was Spiced by Chief Executive, Who also Killed Thirty-eight Ducks.

Georgetown, Dec. 28.—Arriving here Tuesday at midnight a distinguished party from Columbia, consisting of Gov. Manning, Christie Betet, and Dr. Fred Williams, has been enjoying two days of great sport as the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Bernard M. Baruch at Hobcaw on Winyah bay. This magnificent estate covering many thousands acres of land is probably the finest game preserve in the South for deer and ducks.

Wednesday was devoted to deer hunting, more than two dozen being hunted in four drives of which number six were brought down. Gov. Manning killed a huge one, making a 100 per cent. score, using but one barrel of his gun. Mr. Betet won a double red cross on forehead and face by bringing down two deer and Dr. Williams came in for honors with a fat doe to his credit. The entire party of hunters consisted of Mr. and Mrs. Baruch, Gov. Manning and friends from Columbia, Richard Lydeon and Dr. J. A. Wittson of New York, H. W. Fraser, Dr. M. P. Moorer, Dr. E. W. Durant, J. H. Donaldson and Col. H. L. Oliver of Georgetown.

At the conclusion of the hunt a repast was served at the home of the host.

Wednesday night Gov. Manning and party spent in the comfortable hunting lodge near the ocean close to the salt marshes where myriads of mallards find their favorite habitat. Partaking of early breakfast the party repaired to the blinds where for hours the finest duck shooting was enjoyed to which the scores will testify.—Dr. Williams 14, Gov. Manning 35, Mr. Betet 12, Dr. Durant 7, Mr. Baruch's score, and he is an exceptional shot, has not been reported. The visitors left for home on this afternoon's train.

ASSIGNMENTS OF LIEUTENANTS.

Posts Which Young South Carolina Officers Will Hold in United States Army.

Charleston, Dec. 29.—Orders and assignments have been finally completed for the following:

First Cavalry: One Alston Palmer, Sixteenth cavalry; Benaville Rhett Large, Sixth field artillery; Oliver James Bond, Jr., Third field artillery; James Earl Bolton, Twenty-fourth infantry; Bohun Baker Kiploch, Eleventh cavalry; Julius Andrew Mood, Jr., Twenty-sixth infantry; George R. F. Cornish, Thirty-fourth infantry; James H. Holman, Jr., Thirty-fourth infantry, and Wilson McKay Spann, Sixteenth infantry. The new officers have been ordered to report on January 3 to the Officers' Training school at Fort Leavenworth, Kan.

James K. Bolton, a Citadel graduate, resigned a commission as second lieutenant in the marine corps in order to become an officer in the army. It seems that after standing the army examinations and while still uncertain of the result he took advantage of an opportunity to enter the marine corps. But on receiving the appointment for which he had first tried the young man decided to accept it in preference to the other. Most, if not all, of the South Carolinians expect to leave Charleston together at 3:20 o'clock Sunday afternoon.

LAND FOR STOCK RAISING.

President Signs Bill for 660-Acre Homesteads.

Washington, Dec. 29.—President Wilson late today signed the Ferris bill opening up 660-acre homesteads for stock raising and grazing purposes. It is accounted of great importance to the Western States.

Care of Seed.

Clemson College, Dec. 29.—After a sufficient amount of seed has been selected, it should be properly cared for. Too often farmers after taking the trouble and time to select seed, by carelessness in putting it away, lose it all. The rats and mice, and weevils play havoc with it unless it is stored in a tight box or barrel. A clean, dry, molasses barrel is an excellent thing in which to put the selected seed. A piece of wire gauze placed over the top and fastened securely will keep out the rats and mice. The barrel of seed should be placed in a well ventilated and dry room. It will be best to fumigate the seed with Carbon Bisulphide before storing, as this will kill the weevils present and prevent them from multiplying. The seed should be examined from time to time through out the winter months, and as soon as weevils are noticed in it, Carbon Bisulphide should be applied.

REMBERT PERSONAL NEWS.

Pleasant Dining at Mr. J. R. Atkinson's Home.

Rembert, Dec. 29.—Mrs. Mamie Gerhardt of Chattanooga, Tenn., is visiting in our community. William Freeman, student at Carlisle, Bamberg, is at home for the holidays.

Mr. James Freeman of your city is visiting his brother, Mr. W. H. Freeman.

Mr. Sam Gardner and family, of Lexington, are spending the holidays with his wife's father, Mr. W. S. Thompson.

Miss Ruth Thompson is at home from school.

Mr. Ed. B. Watson is away at Letta with his mother.

Rev. James Russell of Chester is with us again and will preach at Bethesda M. E. church Sunday, December 31, at 11:30 a. m.

Since writing the above we learn that Mr. Russell is quite sick, nothing serious, it is thought, at the home of Mr. J. L. Jackson, whose wife is an extended visit to her son, Bush Jackson in Louisiana.

Mr. Russell is in good hands and will be well cared for.

We are living seven days in the week now. Yesterday together with Prof. Harid Langtry of Rembert, J. L. Jackson of Hagood, in fine trim for the occasion, T. R. Moody and family, Miss Eda Davis of Charleston, Mrs. Alex McCabe of Washington, D. C., Miss Jerusha Allen, Mrs. H. C. Bethea, we sat to a most sumptuous feast at the home of Mr. J. R. Atkinson and sister. And the end is not yet. Hog killing time! Don't you town folk envy us?

Miss Edna Davis of Charleston, promises one and a half years old, fat and plump, with great long spurs, the largest cock on the place. He is ever busy keeping out of the way of the others, all because he has no pluck. We've decided to put him in the pot to end our disgust. Bud, if you have no pluck you are no good. Be a kicker, but kick for something. Stand up for your rights, contend for them. Some folks will not do this, and think it is goodness, but is downright cowardice.

We've never been, are not at present, a German sympathizer, but we do admire their pluck. All the way through the terrible war they have shown admirable pluck and discretion. The "lightness" under my daddy's hand at all the time he was holding the other gender. And he fought different from the others, but I never heard that they objected. They doubtless would have done the same thing had they known how. There was the rub. Besides, he always took the initiative, a great advantage.

"Hagood."

LEARN COSTS OF YOUR CROPS.

Keep Accounts and See Where Your Money Goes in 1917.

Clemson College, Dec. 29.—The first of the year is a period of new resolutions, and to keep farm accounts would be a new resolution for nearly all the farmers in South Carolina.

If you sell a bale of cotton for \$75, do you sell at a gain or a loss? Most farmers can only guess at the answer. The guess in this case might be correct, but there are many other cases in which the guess will be wrong. What combination of crops seems to be best for you? In what ways can you cut down your cost of production? Of marketing? Is your business better than it was last year, or the year before, or five years ago? These are some of the things a farmer ought to try to find out about just as earnestly as a merchant or a banker tries to find out about similar things in his business.

Keep accounts. This does not mean estimating what labor, or machinery, or animal power "ought" to cost for a certain crop. It is not much better to make a guess at each of a few items and then add them than it is to make one guess at the whole cost. The thing to do is to keep a careful, day-to-day record of every kind of expense. At the end of the year, after deducting expenses, plus interest on the investment, plus value of products used in the home, one will have left the farm labor income, which is generally taken as an indication of a man's success or failure.

If a man does not feel equal to opening up a system of accounts for his whole farm, it is suggested that he keep the records of just one crop for the year, accounting for each detail. The result will probably open his eyes and lead him to be an all-around business farmer another year.

Death.

Died last Friday near Davis Station Mr. John C. Graham, one of the best citizens of this county. Mr. Graham had been ill for a year or more and the end came after some months of a wasting confinement.—Manning Herald.

PROPOSED INSURANCE LAWS.

GOV. MANNING REVIEWS FINDINGS OF BOARD.

Spirit of Give and Take Throughout Deliberations by the Commission—Personnel of Body.

Columbia, Dec. 30.—The general assembly convening early in January will give much time to the consideration of the fire insurance situation. It is practically certain that several new measures will be enacted.

Gov. Manning has received the recommendations of the special commission which he appointed several months ago, but has made no statement as to the fire insurance laws to be proposed to the legislature.

The commission after a careful consideration of the situation was unanimous in making its recommendations to the governor. The recommendations did not represent the mind of any one member. There was a spirit of give and take throughout the deliberations and to a very large extent the minds of the committee were united on all of the main points.

The governor appointed a representative commission to consider the fire insurance situation. Lawrence M. Pinckney is an experienced insurance agent of Charleston. He is chairman of the ways and means committee of the Charleston city council and a man of broad business experience. Alister G. Furman is an experienced fire insurance agent, residing at Greenville. He is president of the South Carolina Fire Underwriters' association, composed of the local fire insurance agents of the State. He is a man of wide business and public experience.

E. P. McCravy is engaged in the fire insurance business at Easley, one of the smaller towns of the State. He was a member of the general assembly for several terms. D. D. Moise is a member of the Sumter bar. He has large private interests and has a considerable acquaintance with fire insurance, both as an attorney and as a stockholder in one of the fire insurance companies of the State. Bright Williamson is president of the Bank of Darlington. For 25 years he has been president of one of the most successful county mutual fire insurance companies of the State. J. W. Gaston of Duncan is a successful farmer. J. D. Harris is a successful farmer of Greenville county. G. K. Lane has been a member of the State senate from Chesterfield county for several terms. He is the author of the Laney-Odom act. F. H. McMaster, insurance commissioner, is chairman of the commission.

The last legislature passed the Laney-Odom as an anti-compact law, which caused the withdrawal of practically all fire insurance companies doing business in the State.

GERMAN PEACE TERMS. Reported That Ambassador Girard Has Made Secret Report to President Wilson.

Washington, Dec. 30.—Although it is expected the allies' replies will decline to make peace except on their own terms, President Wilson believed the notes will leave loopholes by which the peace negotiations may be continued. Despite the secrecy maintained by the White House and State department, it is learned that Ambassador Girard has forwarded to President Wilson an outline of the concessions Germany is willing to make to end the war. Although only the president and Secretary Lansing know the exact contents of the message it is certain it has strengthened the president's hope of ultimate success in bringing an end of hostilities. Knowledge of a second note to Germany which Berlin dispatches say Ambassador Girard delivered to the foreign office, following the receipt of the first note, was denied here. Secretary Lansing stated that the report was probably based on the receipt by Ambassador Girard of the Arabic data.

HURRY UP RAILROAD HEARING.

Congress Making Effort to Complete President Wilson's Program.

Washington, Dec. 30.—The senate interstate commerce committee today completed plans to hurry up the hearing on President Wilson's railway program on account of threats of a strike of railroad brotherhoods. The hearing on the compulsory arbitration measure will be begun on Tuesday despite the opposition of the labor organizations. It is feared in some quarters that a general strike may go into effect if the brotherhoods see that the arbitration measure cannot be defeated, thus forestalling the railroads' effort to force arbitration before the Adamson law is put into effect.

Washington, Dec. 30.—Villa is making desperate efforts to get back into the good graces of the United States.

His representatives now declare that Villa is innocent of the Columbus raid and was many miles away from the Santa Ysabel massacre.

RECEPTION FOR BRIDE.

Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Dabbs Entertain in Honor of Mrs. E. W. Dabbs, Jr., at "Fern Park" Plantation.

Salem, Black River, Dec. 30.—One of the delightful social events of the week was the reception given Friday afternoon from 3 to 5 o'clock by Mrs. E. W. Dabbs in honor of Mrs. E. W. Dabbs, Jr., at Fern Park, the comfortable home among the pines and native ferns of the Dabbs plantation. The rooms were tastefully decorated with smilax, holly berries and potted ferns. Log fires burned cheerily in the fireplaces of the spacious hall and each of the rooms, giving a homely touch that was very restful as the guests came in from the raw weather of the outside.

In the receiving line were Mrs. E. W. Dabbs, Mrs. E. W. Dabbs, Jr., Mr. E. W. Dabbs, Jr., Mr. E. W. Dabbs, Miss Julia B. Warren and Mrs. E. E. Dabbs, the 90-year old grandmother of the family. Mrs. Workman and Miss Caroline Baker met the guests at the door and presented them to the receiving line. Mrs. George Blackwell and Miss Virginia Warren took them to the dining room, where Misses Anna Workman, Annie Blackwell, Polly Workman and Elizabeth Dabbs served cake, cocoa and delicious home-made candies.

A FEW MORE DOTS FROM THE DARK CORNER.

"Hard Times," Better from His Recent Indisposition, Again Writes Interestingly for Item and Watchman Readers.

Dark Corner, Dec. 27.—Once again I will claim space in the Watchman and Southron for a few dots.

There have been some changes since my last letter of December 1st. Mr. C. H. Johnston has moved here from Tindal in with Mr. W. J. Ardis. Mr. Joe H. Geddings has moved from the "Live Oaks" near Ramsey to near Pinewood. Mr. Basil Geddings has moved from near Pinewood to Mr. J. Dargan Osteen's place and I hear of others to move yet.

Mr. Robert J. Geddings, formerly of this place, but who for the last ten or fifteen years has lived near Pinewood, died very suddenly from acute indigestion Sunday morning, the 17th. The interment was at Bethel Church, Privateer.

Mr. A. G. Stack lost a little son last Saturday from diphtheria. Other members of his family who were sick at the same time were better when heard from last.

I hear measles are plentiful in central and eastern Privateer.

Mr. Geddings, mentioned above, was a Confederate soldier and was for awhile a member of Company H, Fifth South Carolina cavalry. He was about 70 years old. His aged wife, one brother, Tim Geddings of Paxville, one daughter, Mrs. John H. Timmons of Paxville and four sons, Joe H. W. Lee, R. B., of Pinewood and B. D., of Ramsey survive him. Mr. Geddings was a man that attended strictly to his own business.

I have been intending to write for sometime, but have been prevented by sickness. I have had a real bad sore on me for several weeks and I am fearful it will never get well. And I have had a cold and cough until I had to just sit and pant for breath. I feel a little better today.

Christmas was very quiet and pleasant here. I never saw any booze the whole day. There was plenty to eat though. I was remembered by a few of my friends. A box of fine cigars, fruits, etc. was what I was remembered in and to those who so kindly remembered me, I beg to return my heart-felt thanks. May their lives ever be drawn in pleasant places.

Mr. C. H. Johnston and son, Arthur, have gone on a visit today to his daughter, Mrs. Daniel Cooper, near Greeleyville.

Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Johnston visited Mr. and Mrs. Joe H. Geddings last Sunday near Pinewood.

Mr. John T. Childers of Paxville and Mr. Lucius Geddings of Pinewood visited in the Dark Corner Christmas day.

Well, I will now bid the Watchman and Southron farewell for 1916, and may God's blessings rest on the force of the paper and upon all the readers of the same is the wish of old "Hard Times."

(The Item and Watchman & Southron, as well as the force, are deeply appreciative of "Hard Times'" good wishes and extend to him the heartiest of greetings of the season with kindest wishes for his welfare and happiness during 1917.)

AUSTRIA'S KING CROWNED.

Concluding Ceremonies Held in Budapest With Utmost Splendor.

Budapest, Dec. 30.—The concluding exercises attending the coronation of King Charles were held today. Despite the fact that the country is at war, the exercises were of the utmost splendor. The young king is popular and democratic. It is believed he will make a strong effort to bring about an early peace.

GERMANS MAKING PROGRESS.

Strong Position in Carpathians Captured—Still Pursue Russians.

Berlin, Dec. 30.—Further progress has been made by the Austro-Germans in the Carpathian mountains, the war office reports, strongly entrenched positions being captured. In the Rumanian operations Gen. von Mackensen is delivering strong attacks and following up the retreating Russians all along the line.

RAILROADS EXPECT STRIKES.

Switchmen Expected to Quit Work at Many Places.

New York, Dec. 30.—Sporadic strikes of switchmen throughout the Middle West are anticipated by the railroads as the result of delay in putting the Adamson law into effect. Strikes are expected at Chicago, Cleveland, St. Louis, Kansas City, Detroit, Toledo and Buffalo. The strike is not expected to spread to the South or East.

Vigorous Allied Warfare.

London, Dec. 30.—A new air ministry will be created to carry on a more vigorous aerial offensive against Germany.

HOLD GERMANY RESPONSIBLE.

Allies Refuse to Enter Peace Conference Until Definite Terms are Stated.

Paris, Dec. 30.—According to the Petit Parisien the allies' answer to the German peace note will be handed to Ambassador Sharpe tonight. The allies hold Germany responsible for the war and decline to enter a peace conference until the central empires offer definite proposals.

FRENCH ATTACKS REPULSED.

Germans Hold Ground Gained at Verdun Front.

Berlin, Dec. 30.—Attempts by the French to win back the ground captured by the Germans northwest of Verdun were repulsed today, the war office announced. Advances by British and French patrols in other sections were also repulsed. Firing increased on the Somme and Aisne fronts.

The Waste of Farm Lands.

Notwithstanding the fact that there are already large areas of farm lands lying idle, and the gullies becoming more numerous and larger in size each year, many farmers continue to look for "new ground." This is due to the unproductiveness of the fields now in cultivation, and to poor methods of farming. The land is cropped without any thought for the future, without any effort to preserve and improve the conditions and productiveness, and without any thought for the son who is to take his place and make an honest living. Instead, the desire for "new ground" gets a strong hold on the farmer, and away go the pines, and there appears in their place more land to likewise follow the fate of the other. The farmer often has more than he can attend to, and the result is that there are soon more gullies than before, and instead of bettering himself, he has a poorer farm than before. In a few years this "new ground" is soon in as bad condition as the other. The cause of this waste of land is slipshod methods of farming the fields now in cultivation. By continuous cropping systems, without proper rotations, without effort to keep up the productiveness of the farm, and the carelessness of the farmer who lets his soil get depleted of vegetable matter, and who does not think of proper rotation, is it any wonder that the farmers' sons look to the city for a living, instead of the farm? By letting the farm run down, and making it harder and harder each year to make a profitable crop, it is no wonder that the sons turn their heads towards the city, leaving the old home, in which they should be proud, and willing to remain, instead of seeking some means of making a living which does not appear so hopeless. With the soil getting poorer, the hillsides more ragged, and the buildings themselves more dilapidated can the son be blamed? We should try to build up our farms, make them more attractive, and the homes more comfortable, give the children something of which they will be proud, and not be willing to sacrifice for a life in the cities. As long as we neglect to so care for our farms as to let them become unprofitable, and to make it more burdensome each year, and more and more unattractive, we cannot expect the son to stay.

Mr. Charles Miller, the well known engineer at the Demopolis, Ala. Light and Power Co., says he has been undergoing some wonderful repairs.

"I suffered tortures with indigestion for thirteen years and had rheumatism in my left shoulder for six months," writes Mr. Miller. Sometimes I would sit down to the table as hungry as a wolf and after eating a few bites I would feel all stuffed up and full of pains and then I would have a spell of vomiting. I had spent hundreds of dollars for different medicines, but could never get any relief.

"Mrs. Backus of this city asked me one day to try Suffero-Sol and I got a bottle to try, and found to my great and glad surprise that it commenced its great work almost at once. I have taken two bottles and feel that I am entirely cured both of the indigestion and rheumatism.

"I tell you it is simply great to be able to eat heartily of anything I want and never feel a pain or a sign of distress. The fact is I feel fine all over, and I most heartily endorse Suffero-Sol and its wonderful work."

Suffero-Sol is sold and recommended by every Druggist in Sumter and vicinity. Murray Drug Co., State Distributors.

Stationary Engineer of Demopolis, Ala.

Light and Power Co., Delighted With New System.